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Advisory (Please Post)

TO: All MA Ambulance Services

FROM: Jon Burstein, State EMS Medical Director
Louise Goyette, Director

DATE: October 10, 2003

RE: Read and Interpret Capnography Waveform

EMT-Paramedics on ambulances operating at the EMT-P level, if trained and authorized by their affiliate hospital medical director, may read and interpret capnography waveforms as an assessment tool to identify advanced warning of ventilatory status, and to provide an objective confirmation of their clinical assessment.

Your affiliate hospital medical director must have authorized your EMT-Paramedics to use capnography in this manner. Training, competency and oversight are the responsibility of your service and its affiliate hospital medical director.

If you have any questions, contact OEMS Clinical Coordinator Tom Quail, RN, at (617) 284-8330.